Characters

- WALLY FUKUDA, a retired baker, age sixty-five
- JUNE FUKUDA, his daughter, a schoolteacher, age forty-one
- BUTCH FUKUDA, his son, thirty-eight, a security guard
- DEEDEE FUKUDA, Butch's wife, twenty-five, a secretary
- ALVIN KAWABATA, fish-market owner, fifty, unmarried
- GRACIE, Wally's neighbor and housekeeper, about fifty
- HARRY, Wally's best friend, fifty-eight, now living in Las Vegas

TIME: 1994.

PLACE: Living room in the middle-class Liliha district of Honolulu.

SCENERY: The modest living room is neatly furnished. The kitchen is at stage left. Kitchen door leads to the unseen backyard. At stage right is a hallway that leads to bedrooms. There is a couch, a love seat. A dining table with chairs is at stage right. A Japanese doll in a glass case decorates a side table next to the couch. A half-finished jigsaw puzzle is on the dining table.

Act 1

Act 1, Scene 1

Act One Scene 1

(GRACIE enters from the front door, leaves her slippers outside, and walks barefoot in the house, as will all the other characters. She turns on a radio cassette player, then looks out the upstage picture window. Bushes outside decorate the lower part of the window. GRACIE takes out a cigarette from her apron pocket and lights up. A rap song is blaring. She smokes and vacuums. The phone rings. At first she doesn't hear it, but the phone is insistent. She stops the cleaner and turns off the radio.)

GRACIE

Hello.... No, Wally Fukuda is out.... Well, I dunno. He neva say wen he coming back.... Okay, okay... yeah. Bye-bye.

(She hangs up, then puffs on the cigarette. Offstage, the sound of a car turning into the driveway. She quickly looks for a place to put out the cigarette, scoots around, searching. She runs back to where she wassmoking and fans the air to disperse the smoke. She hears the key in the front door and puts the cigarette in her mouth. WALLY enters, carrying a brown bag of groceries. He smiles at GRACIE, but then sniffs. He walks slowly toward GRACIE, who edges backward with a weak smile.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Gracie, you was smoking?

(She shakes her head.)

I can smell 'um, Gracie. No can fool me. Come on. Where?

(He sticks out his hand. She meekly opens her mouth and takes out the cigarette to put in his hand.)

How many times I told you. Smoking no good.

GRACIE

I know.

WALLY FUKUDA

You been lighting up all dis time?

(He drops the cigarette in a wastebasket.)

GRACIE

Well, not all da time, not like before.

WALLY FUKUDA

No smoke please. No good. I like you stick around help me clean my house. If you no stay, dis house going turn into one pig house.

GRACIE

So hard not to smoke. You know, you used to smoke yourself.

WALLY FUKUDA

But I wen' stop. If I can, you can.

GRACIE

Yeah. You wen' stop smoking wen Kay got sick.

WALLY FUKUDA

One day I stop and neva smoke again. Pau.

GRACIE

Oh, by da way, somebody named Harry wen' call.

WALLY FUKUDA

Harry? Harry who?

GRACIE

All he said was Harry.

WALLY FUKUDA

Hmmm, I know t'ree Harrys. One is haole. He was haole?

GRACIE

No sound like one haole. But nowdays hard to tell.

WALLY FUKUDA

Da odda Harry is on da Mainland. And da last Harry dead.

GRACIE

Well, if da last Harry calling from da grave, I getting outta here.

(WALLY takes his bag into the kitchen. GRACIE resumes vacuuming. Soon WALLY returns with a persimmon on a small dish. He goes upstage right to a small Buddhist shrine, the butsudan. *GRACIE stops cleaning, as he goes through the ritual of lighting a candle, burning an incense stick in a small bowl, and hitting a brass bowl with a small stick three times. He holds his hands in prayer, saying "Namu Amida Butsu" three times.)*

GRACIE

I can make too?

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh yeah, yeah, come. Just one stick, yeah.

(GRACIE puts an incense stick in the bowl and bows politely. WALLY fans out the candle flame.)

GRACIE

How long since Kay passed away? Year and a half?

WALLY FUKUDA

One year, seven months.

GRACIE

Too bad, yeah. You just retired and now you two could travel and have a good time.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yep. Forty years as one baker. 'S enough, yeah. All da doughnuts and bear claws and eclairs, pumpkin pies...

GRACIE

You know wat my favorite was? Your Guava Chiffon Surprise. Hooo, da ono.

WALLY FUKUDA

I wen' bake my last one Friday. I not going bake nuttin' else da rest of my life.

GRACIE

I cannot orda one Guava Chiffon from you?

WALLY FUKUDA

Sorry, pau.

GRACIE

I tought you my friend.

WALLY FUKUDA

Even my relatives not going get any.

(He stands next to the dining table, looking at the jigsaw puzzle. He picks up a piece and places it in the proper spot.)

GRACIE

I dunno how you can work on dat jigsaw. Too many pieces, drive me crazy.

WALLY FUKUDA

Sometimes help pass da time at night.

(WALLY pushes the button on the cassette player. Frank Sinatra's "Time After Time" plays. GRACIE uses a rag to clean the coffee table.)

GRACIE

Really old song, yeah.

WALLY FUKUDA

Go back wen Kay and me were young...

GRACIE

... and in love.

WALLY FUKUDA

Our song. I told her, "I cannot sing but if I can sing, I like sing dis song to you."

(The doorbell rings. WALLY turns off the recorder and opens the door.)

HARRY

Aeh, Wally, how you doing?

WALLY FUKUDA

Harry! I was hoping was you. Aeh, come in, come in.

HARRY

How I look? Not bad, eh?

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, life treating you good.

HARRY

No can complain.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, I bet you came back to live. Mainland was waste time, eh? No can beat Hawai`i.

HARRY

You kidding me? I love it up dere. I neva regret leaving Honolulu. You know me, I neva look back.

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh, Harry, dis is Gracie, my friend and neighbor down da street and part-time housekeepa. She really help me out plenny.

HARRY

Oh yeah? Tell me da truth, Gracie. You shacking up wit' Wally, eh?

GRACIE

No, I married.

HARRY

Oh mo' betta. You like shack up wit' me?

WALLY FUKUDA

No listen to dis guy, Gracie. Too smood, yeah? He live in Vegas now.

GRACIE

No wonda.

HARRY

Dey call me California Harry.

GRACIE

Okay if I call you Pupule Harry?

HARRY

(laughing):

Gracie, you so sweet. Marry me.

GRACIE

Ha! If you live in Vegas, how come dey no call you Nevada Harry?

HARRY

Because I hang out at da California Hotel in Vegas. You know da place?

GRACIE

Oh yeah, my husband and I go dere once a year, no miss, wit' my lucky frog. Good ova dere. Dey treat Hawai`i people real nice.

HARRY

'S right. If you from Hawai`i, you get da best treatment. I live about ten minutes from da California.

WALLY FUKUDA

Da last time I was dere, I took Kay. She wasn't feeling too strong because of da cancer, but she wanted to go. Hit one six-hundred dollar jackpot. She was so happy wen all da coins started falling. Dat was about six months before she wen' pass away.

GRACIE

Yeah, yeah, she was telling me wen she came back. 'S right, she hit da six hundred. Oh, dat was so nice.

WALLY FUKUDA

Meant so much to her.

HARRY

Of course. Because she earned it. All by herself. She won. 'S da big ting. Not how much she won.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, you like one beer?

HARRY

Nah, too early. Coffee okay.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah.

GRACIE

You folks go talk story. I make 'um.

(GRACIE exits into the kitchen.)

WALLY FUKUDA

How long you going stay dis time?

(The two men sit.)

HARRY

Two weeks. See some relatives.

WALLY FUKUDA

Everyting okay in Vegas?

HARRY

Da best, Wally, da best. Hit one twenty-five-tousand dollar jackpot. Video poker, royal flush, progressive.

WALLY FUKUDA

No kidding. You lucky bugga, eh.

HARRY

You know I like shoot craps, but sometimes I play da slots. Change of pace, eh. You saw my life up dere. I get up wen I like, do wat I like, nobody bodda me.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wen you said you going turn pro, I tought, chee, going be tough.

HARRY

Well, you gotta have discipline, you know dat. Wen I losing, I walk away from da crap table. But wen I winning, I really load up, you know, make da most of da hot hand.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, 's one ting I get hard time doing. You gotta bring up da bets wen da hot streak is on.

HARRY

And wen da dice are cold, ice cubes, I stop. I no try force 'um. You only lose mo'.

WALLY FUKUDA

Control, yeah, gotta have control. No go crazy.

HARRY

Aeh, wen tings not going right, I just play twenty-five-cents video poker. 'S how I hit my jackpot. But someday I going hit da million-dollar baby.

WALLY FUKUDA

Me, I no mo' da kine luck. Kay used to like da slots, yeah. I told her, "Come wit' me, I show you how play craps." But no, too fast da game, she used to say. She hold her own wit' da slots, though. In fact, I bet she was ahead in winnings ova da years.

HARRY

You see how you talking? You see? Your eyes light up. You rememba da good times. And you cannot get homesick in Vegas. All you gotta do is go to da California Hotel and you always bump into people you know from Hawai`i.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S true. No miss, yeah. One time we bump into Kay's cousin from Maui, and one odda time her auntie from da Big Island. Da auntie was eighty years old and she was so busy playing da slots, no mo' time for talk.

HARRY

'S right. Aeh, old folks really love Vegas. Dey get a kick, yeah? Wen dey hit one jackpot, most a dem dey no laugh or clap or make big noise, but you look at deir faces, dey look proud. Dey wen' earn dat jackpot, man, dey work for it. Nobody had to crank da handle for dem, nobody had to help dem. Dey did 'um all by demself.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah. I can just see Kay's face now. She neva get energy to do too many tings, but she still had da strength to crank da slot handle. She could've push da spin button for make da wheels turn, but no, she wanted to pull da handle. For good luck, she said. I was hoping she hit one jackpot 'cause she was trying so hard. And wen she hit 'um, I had tears in my eyes. I was so happy for her. Yeah, Kay and me had good times in Vegas even if we neva win all da time.

HARRY

I can see her face too. She knew how to have a good time.

(GRACIE returns with coffee mugs and a plate of cookies on a tray, placing it on the coffee table.)

WALLY FUKUDA

T'anks, Gracie. Come sit down listen too.

HARRY

Wally, look.

(HARRY holds a pair of dice in his hand.)

Come on, roll 'um, see wat kine luck you get.

(WALLY handles the dice, looking them over, then rolls them on the floor.)

HARRY

Seven! All right!

GRACIE

Seven is good, eh?

HARRY

Oh yeah. On da come-out roll, seven or eleven is a winna.

WALLY FUKUDA

Here, try roll.

(GRACIE shakes the dice with cupped hands.)

HARRY

No, dey not let you do dat, bumbai you cheat.

GRACIE

Wat, I no cheat.

WALLY FUKUDA

One hand, one hand, shake 'um wit' one hand.

(She rattles the dice with one hand.)

HARRY

Okay, first you gotta put down one bet on da Pass Line. How much?

GRACIE

Hundred bucks!

HARRY

Hooo, da big rolla! Go 'head, betting one hundred.

(She rolls the dice on the floor with a flourish.)

HARRY

Two! You lose!

GRACIE

Aeh, you neva say nuttin' about losing.

HARRY

You roll two, you lose. 'S da rules. Roll 'um again. How much you betting?

GRACIE

Two hundred. I gotta get my money back.

(She rolls with a passion.)

HARRY

Twelve!

GRACIE

I win!

HARRY

You lose! Twelve is craps too. Loser!

GRACIE

Aeh, no fair.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, 's wat we all say.

HARRY

No forget, seven or eleven you win.

GRACIE

And two or twelve I lose.

HARRY

Now you catching on.

WALLY FUKUDA

Roll 'um again and win dis time.

HARRY

No forget. How much you betting?

GRACIE

How much I lose so far?

WALLY FUKUDA

T'ree hundred.

GRACIE

Okay, I betting eight hundred.

HARRY

Right! Time to go to Caesars Palace!

(GRACIE is determined. She grimaces and wiggles her hips. She rolls.)

HARRY

T'ree!

GRACIE

I win!

HARRY

You lose! T'ree is a loser!

(GRACIE appeals to WALLY.)

WALLY FUKUDA

He not lying. Two, three, and twelve is craps, you lose.

GRACIE

Wat kine game dis? Junk. Only two, three, and twelve come out. Dis dice must be crooked.

(She examines the dice carefully.)

HARRY

You just on one losing streak. You going win. Roll 'um, baby, roll 'um.

GRACIE

Okay, betting... one tousand!

HARRY

All right, go for it!

(She rolls.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Four.

GRACIE

I win?

WALLY FUKUDA

No, now you gotta roll da numba four again, den you win.

GRACIE

Good.

HARRY

But —

GRACIE

Wat but, I no like but!

HARRY

But now you gotta roll da four before you roll da seven. If you get da seven before you get da four, you lose.

GRACIE

I tought if I roll seven I win.

HARRY

'S only on da come-out roll.

WALLY FUKUDA

See, da point of da game is to roll four, five, six, eight, nine, or ten. Wen you roll one of dese numbas, you gotta roll again and hit da same numba. See, you wen' roll da four, right? Now you roll da four again, you win. But if you roll seven, you lose.

HARRY

'S only wen you no mo' numba to roll, wat dey call da come-out roll, den you lose two, three, or twelve and you win wit' seven or eleven.

GRACIE

Wait, wait, I getting dizzy. Humbug, eh, dis game.

HARRY

Easy once you know all da rules. Roll 'um, Gracie.

(GRACIE is about to roll dramatically.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Wait!

(She spins around in a wild gyration and falls on her butt.)

GRACIE

Wassamatta!

WALLY FUKUDA

You gotta back up your Pass Line bet wit' double odds.

HARRY

Yeah, yeah, yeah, no forget da odds. Put two tousand behind da bet. Always take da double odds.

GRACIE

If you say so.

WALLY FUKUDA

Now you t'ree tousand riding on da roll.

HARRY

Dis wahine tough, eh, Wally? Gracie, you tough.

(She flexes her muscles.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Okay, roll dat four.

(She rolls.)

HARRY

Eight.

GRACIE

I win.

WALLY FUKUDA

No, no. How can?

GRACIE

(pointing):

Das da four. And das da four.

HARRY

Equals eight. But eight no harm. In fact, if you roll six, eight, five, nine, ten, 's good, 'cause da odda bettors get money on dose odda numbas. If you roll dose numbas ova and ova, dey love you.

GRACIE

Dey no like I roll da four?

HARRY

Dey like dat too.

GRACIE

Dey gotta make up deir mind, eh. Here comes da four.

(She rolls again.)

HARRY

T'ree and one... four, winna!

(GRACIE dances and whoops it up.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Lessee, you win tousand for da Pass Line bet, double for da odds bet, 's four tousand. All togedda you get eight tousand.

GRACIE

All right, all right!

HARRY

How much you like bet now?

GRACIE

Bet 'um all, I not chicken shit, bet 'um all.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wow, wait, no limit on da crap table. We mean business.

HARRY

Let da lady roll!

(GRACIE resumes her comical ritual. Then she rolls.)

HARRY

Aaaaaggghhh! Ten!

GRACIE

Wat?

HARRY

You sure make it hard, Gracie.

GRACIE

Why?

WALLY FUKUDA

Ten is a hard numba to roll.

GRACIE

I like ten. Good even numba. Five and five is ten.

WALLY FUKUDA

Okay. Confidence, 's good. Go for da hard way, five and five.

HARRY

Back up wit' da odds, no forget.

GRACIE

Gimme everyting on da odds.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S sixteen tousand behind da line.

GRACIE

I no mo' sixteen tousand.

HARRY

No sweat. I back you up, sista. I loan you sixteen tousand. I believe in you. I believe.

WALLY FUKUDA

Now you get eight tousand on da Pass Line and sixteen tousand behind, 's twenty-four tousand riding on da ten.

GRACIE

Wait, wait, I need one cigarette.

WALLY FUKUDA

No mo' time smoke, you holding up da game.

GRACIE

Look my hand

(it's trembling),

too much pressure.

WALLY FUKUDA

You can do it, Gracie. I know you, you can do it. Just go for broke!

HARRY

Come on, Gracie, shake dem bones.

WALLY FUKUDA

You tough, Gracie, da Iron Buttafly, 's you. Work your hips. Hang loose. Cool head main ting.

(GRACIE nods knowingly. She calms down, then goes through her ritual. Finally, for sheer coolness, she flips the dice behind her back.)

HARRY

Aaaaaahhhhhh... five... four!

(GRACIE screams and falls near the dice.)

GRACIE

You see wat happen? I had one five and one mo' five was turning up but wen' hit dis dirt here and turn up four. 'S wat I get, I neva vacuum dis spot good.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S okay. Nine is no harm. You can still get da ten.

GRACIE

Yeah, yeah. You betting wit' me, Wally? I hot, I hot.

WALLY FUKUDA

I backing you up all da way.

HARRY

Aeh, I get so much confidence in you, I going bet da limit on da hard way ten — five and five.

GRACIE

Okay, baby, okay. You want da five and five, you got it!

(She rolls.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Five and five! Hard way ten!

(GRACIE whoops and high-fives WALLY and HARRY.)

GRACIE

How much I win?

WALLY FUKUDA

Eight tousand for da Pass bet, t'irty-two tousand for da odds bet, all togedda you get sixty-four tousand dollars.

GRACIE

Sixty-four tousand! Wait till I tell my husband.

HARRY

Next time you come to Vegas, you gotta come see me and we hit da crap table togedda. We can break 'um, Gracie, you and me, we can break 'um.

GRACIE

Okay, next time for sure. Now I know why da crap table so full wit' people screaming and cheering.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S da best time. Good fun and you make lotta money.

GRACIE

Yeah, yeah, I see. Okay, I ready, I ready. Look out, everybody, gimme room, I betting da whole sixty-four tousand dollars.

WALLY FUKUDA

No, you pupule or wat?

GRACIE

I like bet da whole sixty-four tousand.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat if you lose?

HARRY

It's discipline, discipline. You walk away a winna. No let da casino win your money back. One guy once won one million dollars at da crap table at da Horseshoe in 1991. But da dumb ass wen' lose 'um all back. Yeah! All da one million. Was in newspaper. So you take da sixty-four tousand wit' you and be happy.

GRACIE

But no can buy nuttin' wit' dis sixty-four tousand. 'S why hard. I go from one big rolla back to housekeepa just li'dat

(snaps her fingers).

Coffee cold. You like fresh one?

HARRY

No, cold betta for da stomach.

(GRACIE goes off.)

Wally, we gotta hit da crap table togedda. Man, I tell you, I need you standing right next to me for good luck.

WALLY FUKUDA

Maybe someday.

(GRACIE returns with a Dust Buster and makes a point of vacuuming the spot where the dice were rolled earlier.)

GRACIE

Now okay.

(She goes into the kitchen.)

HARRY

Wally, listen to dis. Now just listen, okay? Why you no move to Vegas like me?

WALLY FUKUDA

Live in Vegas?

HARRY

Yeah, why not? Aeh, lodda Hawai`i people moving to Vegas. Da promised land, Wally, da promised land.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat I going do dere?

HARRY

Wat you mean, you do wat I do. Gamble, live da good life. Play some golf, no worries, no cares in da world.

WALLY FUKUDA

For you maybe, you not married.

HARRY

Well, you know, you too.

WALLY FUKUDA

Hmmm, I neva tought of dat. I still feel like I married to Kay.

HARRY

You free to do wateva you like. Go any place you can imagine. Nobody bodda you.

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, I get June and Butch.

HARRY

Yeah but dey grown up already.

GRACIE

(from kitchen entrance):

Nice kids. I wish was mine. I no mo' kids. Only my husband Teddy and my dog Moe Lepo.

WALLY FUKUDA

You need money live in Vegas.

HARRY

Aeh, look at dis house. You can get, I figga, minimum six hundred tousand. And no forget, you qualify for da two-hundred-fifty-tousand tax-free exemption on da sale. In Vegas right now, in Nort' Las Vegas where I live, you can buy one brand-new four-bedroom house for one hundred twenty tousand dollars.

GRACIE

'S all? Cheap.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, sounds good.

HARRY

Oh real nice da house. 'S why lodda Hawai`i people moving to Vegas. Good desert climate. Food is cheap.

GRACIE

Dis one girl I know. She used to work as one hairdressa. Den she wen' move to Vegas. She selling real estate now. All her beautyshop clients, she selling Vegas property to dem now. Akamai.

HARRY

Yeah, she smart. Aeh, it's a mass exodus to Vegas. Lodda people in Hawai`i house-rich and cash-poor. So you sell your equity-rich house here and buy one nice new house in Vegas for one-fifth da price and you bank da rest of da money. No can beat dat.

WALLY FUKUDA

Bumbai I lose all my money gambling.

HARRY

Not you. You get control.

GRACIE

Somebody else.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat?

GRACIE

Da Kukona family. Dey bought one condo so da daughta get one place to stay wen she attend UNLV˙ And wen dey visit Vegas, dey stay wit' da daughta.

HARRY

Wally, people starting a new life in Vegas. And why not? You bust your ass all dese years making a living, sending da kids to school, taking care of da old folks, now you can relax and get some fun, enjoy life.

WALLY FUKUDA

I guess so.

HARRY

Yeah. Aeh, we go out dinna dis week. We can talk some mo'.

WALLY FUKUDA

Okay sure. You like I call you?

HARRY

No, I get in touch wit' you. I gotta see some odda people. I stay at da Halekulani. Gracie, nice meeting you. No forget, we hit da crap table togedda next time.

GRACIE

Yeah and I bringing my sixty four tousand wit' me.

WALLY FUKUDA

See you, eh. Good you came visit.

HARRY

Okay, bye.

(HARRY leaves.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat you tink, Gracie. Me live in Vegas.

GRACIE

I cannot picture you living in one desert. 'S wat Vegas is, one desert. You one Hawai`i boy. No can beat da aloha spirit here.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, you right. And Vegas starting to get smog too, you know.

GRACIE

Oh yeah?

WALLY FUKUDA

Sure. Hawai`i get clean, fresh air. Beautiful beaches. You know how much I like da beach. And da last time I was in Vegas I neva see one beach. Anyway, I cannot leave Butch and June behind, especially June. She not married, so I gotta watch ova her.

GRACIE

'S right. Your only daughta, afta all.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yup. If I neva get kids, well den, 's someting else.

(WALLY is deep in thought as lights fade slowly to black.)

Act 1, Scene 2

Scene 2

(Lights up. It is a couple of days later. WALLY is alseep on the couch with a blanket completely covering him. GRACIE enters through the front door, heads toward the kitchen. She sees a mess and shakesher head. She throws some rubbish into a wastebasket, sneezes, and grabs a tissue from the coffee table. WALLY doesn't move under the blanket. GRACIE walks to the hallway entrance to listen for WALLY. Then she returns and plops down on the couch. WALLY grunts loudly, and GRACIE jumps up with a scream. He emerges from under the blanket.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat was dat? Felt like someting wen' sit on me.

GRACIE

Oh, you was dreaming.

WALLY FUKUDA

I guess so. Musta been one elephant.

GRACIE

Aeh, aeh!

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat?

GRACIE

Neva mind. How come you sleeping on da couch?

WALLY FUKUDA

I been sleeping on da couch long time now.

GRACIE

How long?

WALLY FUKUDA

Eva since Kay wen' pass away.

GRACIE

Why? No good li'dat.

WALLY FUKUDA

Cannot help. Too hard sleep in da bedroom.

GRACIE

Oh, too bad, no.

WALLY FUKUDA

I like da couch. Comfortable.

GRACIE

Why you still sleeping?

WALLY FUKUDA

I was out late wit' Harry last night.

GRACIE

Where you guys went?

WALLY FUKUDA

All ova. Dinna at Wisteria. Harry miss da local soul food. Den we wen' see da Frank DeLima show. Was good. And last, we wen' hit da karaoke bar across da street from A`ala Park, by da skating rink.

GRACIE

Busy night, eh. Old futs like you guys can still have fun, yeah?

WALLY FUKUDA

Harry is one good fun guy.

GRACIE

You like I cook breakfast for you?

(WALLY folds the blanket neatly.)

WALLY FUKUDA

I make 'um myself. Only easy fry Spam and eggs.

GRACIE

I wish Teddy was mo' like you. He like tings like Eggs Benedict. I tell 'um, you going eat Eggs Gracie and no squawk, two eggs sunnyside down and da yolk all broke up.

(JUNE enters at the front door.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Hi, Gracie. Daddy, you still in your pajamas?

WALLY FUKUDA

I just woke up.

JUNE FUKUDA

That's not like you. What time did you sleep?

WALLY FUKUDA

T'ree o'clock.

JUNE FUKUDA

What were you doing up so late?

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat, no can... no can... work on my puzzle? You see here, not so easy. Suppose to be one t'ree-ring circus.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, if you're gonna stay up late working on the puzzle, you better stop. Not good for you.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, little bit kapakahi, eh. Who da parent and who da child around here? I suppose to tell you dat.

JUNE FUKUDA

You know I'm always in bed by ten-thirty.

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, 's da trouble. Maybe you should go out and have a good time, go to one karaoke bar like m-m-m-m Gracie. You stay home too much. Find one nice boyfriend and go out and laugh and drink and —

JUNE FUKUDA

I don't drink, you know that. And we went over this long time ago. I'm forty-one years old. I'm gonna be like Auntie Kiku, an old maid.

(JUNE goes into the kitchen with a small box she brought.)

GRACIE

You get fast mout', eh. I like da way you wen' squeeze oudda dat.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, no good if she know her faddah was out at da bar drinking till closing time.

JUNE FUKUDA

(from kitchen):

Daddy, you ate breakfast yet?

WALLY FUKUDA

No.

JUNE FUKUDA

You want me to make toast for you?

WALLY FUKUDA

'S all she know how make. She neva learn how cook.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy!

WALLY FUKUDA

Make me miso soup.

JUNE FUKUDA

I don't know how.

WALLY FUKUDA

See.

GRACIE

Why Kay neva teach her?

WALLY FUKUDA

June neva like learn.

GRACIE

How she eat now?

WALLY FUKUDA

Frozen dinnas. Go out eat. You know, nowdays no need cook.

(JUNE returns with a small dish of manju which she puts at the shrine. She doesn't go through the ritual, just bows with palms together.)

JUNE FUKUDA

I brought some manju but don't eat now. Eat after lunch or dinner right after the meal.

WALLY FUKUDA

Who said dat?

JUNE FUKUDA

Nutritionists.

WALLY FUKUDA

Who dat?

JUNE FUKUDA

People who know what and how you should eat.

WALLY FUKUDA

Sound like busybodies.

JUNE FUKUDA

Behave now. Gracie, try the manju. Come.

(They go into the kitchen.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, how come Gracie can eat now?

GRACIE

'Cause I not one old fut like you.

WALLY FUKUDA

I know I just retired, but I no feel old.

JUNE FUKUDA

You know why.

WALLY FUKUDA

No, I dunno why. If I know why, I no ask.

(To himself.)

You know wat she talking about? No ask me, I just live here.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, go change.

WALLY FUKUDA

Why? I like stay in my pajamas. Hugh Hefner stay in his pajamas all day.

JUNE FUKUDA

You're not Hugh Hefner, thank goodness.

GRACIE

Yeah, if you Hugh Hefner, I gotta be da Playboy bunny.

JUNE FUKUDA

I'm going jogging. Let's go. You can just walk.

WALLY FUKUDA

If I like walk, I can walk in da house.

JUNE FUKUDA

Not the same. Get some fresh air, sweat a little. You don't do anything since Mama got sick.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, how come you eating one manju too?

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, I'm gonna exercise from now, so it's okay.

WALLY FUKUDA

You mean, if I go exercise wit' you, I can eat one too?

JUNE FUKUDA

Well...

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, 's how you teach your students? Do as I say, not as I do.

JUNE FUKUDA

Okay, you can eat one. Only one.

(WALLY quickly slips into the kitchen and returns eating a manju.)

JUNE FUKUDA

I was thinking, since you're retired now, maybe you have time to pack up Mama's clothes to give away.

WALLY FUKUDA

No need.

JUNE FUKUDA

Give you more room in the closet. And some people can use her clothes.

WALLY FUKUDA

Nah, nah, nah.

JUNE FUKUDA

You want me to do it? I can —

WALLY FUKUDA

I get enough room, neva mind.

JUNE FUKUDA

Okay, go change your clothes then. I'll wait for you.

WALLY FUKUDA

No need change clothes. I change my mind instead. I not going.

JUNE FUKUDA

You promised.

WALLY FUKUDA

So I wen'lie. Wen guys reach sixty-five, dey can lie all dey like. Anyway, I get lodda tings to do.

JUNE FUKUDA

Like what?

WALLY FUKUDA

Like... too many to mention. And neva mind me. About time you get married. I cannot wait foreva. Someday I going be gone.

JUNE FUKUDA

Don't talk like that. Don't think about dying.

WALLY FUKUDA

I no mean dat. I just saying someday I might be gone from dis house. 'S why I like you get married so I don't have to worry about you. I like you be happy.

JUNE FUKUDA

I don't have to be married to be happy. I'm very busy without a man in my life. You're the man in my life, that's enough.

WALLY FUKUDA

No, you deserve one good husband who can take care of you da rest of your life. 'S all I get to say. Bye-bye.

(He exits into hallway.)

JUNE FUKUDA

He must've gotten up on the wrong side of the bed.

GRACIE

Wrong side of da couch.

JUNE FUKUDA

Wat?

GRACIE

He just one big grouch.

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, if he's not coming, I might as well go. Bye.

GRACIE

Bye-bye.

(JUNE exits. WALLY reenters, still in his pajamas.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat you tink? About time June get married, yeah?

GRACIE

Well, if she like get married.

WALLY FUKUDA

About time, about time.

GRACIE

Why all of a sudden you like she get da ring on da finga?

WALLY FUKUDA

Somebody gotta take care of her if I no stay around.

GRACIE

I hate to say dis, but if wahine no marry by forty-one, well, hard luck case, yeah.

WALLY FUKUDA

I dunno why June neva get married. She had chance. Some boys liked her. But she go out wit' dem one, two times, den pau. Same old story every time.

GRACIE

Well, she's a schoolteacha. She get her rules and you know she always like you follow da rules, just like her students. I can see where she going be da boss in da house and not da husband. So she gotta find somebody who like da wife be da boss.

WALLY FUKUDA

You know one guy li'dat for June?

GRACIE

Chee, all da good ones li'dat married already. Wahine not dumb, you know. Dey jump quick on da kine easy meat.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, 's da trouble. 'S wat June get, wait so long. She was too picky from way back. Dis boy get too many pimples. So I said, "No judge one boy by his pimples. You dunno wat stay behind da pimples." Dat boy get

crooked teet'. I said, "Crooked teet' no problem. Just tell him no smile. At least his face not crooked." Dis guy bolohead. So I said, "You save money. No need buy hair oil for him." Dat boy too fat. I said, "Dat fat boy going always be fait'ful to you 'cause no odda wahine going like one big bamboola like him." I tink I wen' little bit too far wen I said dat. But no can please June. You know how long she was living wit' Kay and me? Too long.

GRACIE

In a way, I no blame her. Was nice for her living wit' one good Daddy and good Mommy. Wat mo' can one child ask for? Even one grown-up child like June.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah but da time came wen she hadda move out for her own sake. Kay and me, we wen' talk it ova and we tought betta let her get her own place, so she can get boyfriends to come ova visit her.

GRACIE

And shack up.

WALLY FUKUDA

No, not dat. I like she get married.

GRACIE

'S da way you get married nowdays. First you gotta hook 'um, den you live togedda and put da ring in da nose and drag da poor guy around.

WALLY FUKUDA

Not June.

GRACIE

'S da way I wen' bag my Teddy. He was like one blue marlin. Took me long time reel him in.

WALLY FUKUDA

June hate fishing.

GRACIE

Fishing? Wait. I know one guy, Kawabata. Single guy. How come I wen' forget him? Oh, I know why. 'Cause he's one easy guy to forget. But he's a good man. I rememba him now 'cause he own one fish market.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S good. June like fish. She always telling me I gotta eat mo' fish. Wait, he divorce wit' five kids?

GRACIE

Dis guy neva been married.

WALLY FUKUDA

How old?

GRACIE

Fifty.

WALLY FUKUDA

Fifty? He not mahu?

GRACIE

No, he live at home wit' his folks, watch ova dem. Da Kawabata old lady like da son get married befo' she ma-ke.

WALLY FUKUDA

I can meet da guy first?

GRACIE

Yeah, I can bring him ova.

WALLY FUKUDA

I know. Bring him Saturday night. All da family going be ova. Where his fish market?

GRACIE

Pearl City. Good steady business.

WALLY FUKUDA

Sure, people gotta eat. People always eat fish. Fish good for you. 'S wat June always says.

(Lights fade to black.)

Act 1, Scene 3

Scene 3

(Lights up. Early evening. WALLY enters from bedroom area and heads for the kitchen. The doorbell rings and he turns to open the door. GRACIE and ALVIN KAWABATA enter.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, hi, hi, come in.

GRACIE

Wally, dis is Alvin Kawabata.

WALLY FUKUDA

Good, good, hi.

KAWABATA

Fine, t'anks.

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh. Yeah, yeah, okay.

KAWABATA

I brought some opihi.

WALLY FUKUDA

Opihi. Chee, hard to get opihi nowdays. T'anks, eh.

KAWABATA

I get my own source. Secret. I cannot tell you who.

WALLY FUKUDA

Das okay.

GRACIE

You guys go sit down talk story. I can help in da kitchen.

(She enters the kitchen.)

WALLY FUKUDA

So, ah, Gracie told you I get one daughta.

(ALVIN nods shyly.)

Well, I'm her faddah so I can say she one nice girl but... Gracie, wat you tink of June?

GRACIE

Nice girl.

WALLY FUKUDA

See. So, anyway. You looking for one wife?

KAWABATA

Well... ah, ah...

WALLY FUKUDA

I hear your muddah like you settle down. Bet you get lodda girlfriends, eh?

KAWABATA

No.

WALLY FUKUDA

So, Alvin. Wat your friends call you?

KAWABATA

I no mo' too many friends.

WALLY FUKUDA

Some people call you, wat, Al?

KAWABATA

No, just Alvin.

WALLY FUKUDA

You no mo' nickname?

KAWABATA

Not now. Wen I was young; some kids used to call me Kawabata Hanabata.

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh yeah? Kawabata Hanabata.

KAWABATA

Rhyme's why.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, yeah.

KAWABATA

I rememba telling my faddah, why our name was not Kawasaki or Kawamura or —

WALLY FUKUDA

Kawahara.

KAWABATA

Yeah.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S why hard, yeah. But Alvin... Alvin is da name of one chipmunk. Al... vin, Al... vin. Vin. Vin. Vinny. Aeh,

Vinny Kawabata. I can call you Vinny?

KAWABATA

Vinny? 'S not one Italian name?

WALLY FUKUDA

Italian, Japanese, wat da diff'rence. Vinny Kawabata sound good.

KAWABATA

Vinny. I dunno.

WALLY FUKUDA

Alvin is okay, no get me wrong. But Vinny is mo' macho. Aeh, Vinny! Vinny baby! Give me five, Vinny! Try walk around, go, walk.

(ALVIN takes some hesitant steps.)

'S him, Vinny Kawabata. Aeh, Vinny, shaka, man, shaka!

(ALVIN bops up and down.)

Aeh, Vinny, all da wahines asking for you.

GRACIE

Aeh, Vinny, you make my skin hot!

WALLY FUKUDA

You see! Vinny, Vinny, you get da moves now!

(ALVIN takes small, jerky steps.)

KAWABATA

You get bat'room?

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, I get two bat'rooms, t'ree bedrooms.

KAWABATA

I gotta go.

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh, oh. Right t'rough dere and first door on da left.

(ALVIN exits.)

GRACIE

Well, wat you tink?

WALLY FUKUDA

I tink he get weak bladda.

GRACIE

Good match for June, eh?

(She brings over a bowl of potato chips, puts it on the coffee table.)

WALLY FUKUDA

I dunno if she like fish dat much.

GRACIE

Da mo' you know Alvin, I mean Vinny, da betta you like him. June would like Vinny. Give 'um chance, Wally.

(Front door opens and JUNE enters.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Hi, everybody. I brought M&M candies and poi.

(She goes into the kitchen.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Make me one poi cocktail.

JUNE FUKUDA

Not now, Daddy, going spoil your appetite.

WALLY FUKUDA

I wen' invite one friend for dinna.

JUNE FUKUDA

Who?

WALLY FUKUDA

You neva meet him before. He stay in da bat'room now.

(JUNE comes out with a small bowl of M&M *candies.)*

JUNE FUKUDA

Help yourself, Gracie. Daddy, afta dinna you can have some M&Ms.

(ALVIN peeks out from upstage. He tries beckoning to WALLY. JUNE spots him.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Somebody wants you, I think.

(WALLY sees ALVIN, who meekly motions for him to come.)

WALLY FUKUDA

(to women):

Try wait.

(He steps over to ALVIN, listens and nods, then returns.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Ah, 's Vinny Kawabata ova dere. Before he come ova, he like everybody know dat da bat'room faucet wen' crazy and he neva do wat look like he did. Okay, Vinny, come.

(ALVIN walks over sheepishly. The crotch area of his pants is dark and wet.)

Vinny, dis is my daughta June.

JUNE FUKUDA

Hello.

KAWABATA

Fine, t'anks.

WALLY FUKUDA

Come sit here.

(He sits ALVIN on the couch with JUNE.)

GRACIE

Help yourself to da candy and chips.

WALLY FUKUDA

June, you guys talk. I gotta show Gracie someting.

GRACIE

Wat?

WALLY FUKUDA

Outside, come, I —

GRACIE

I busy in da kitchen.

WALLY FUKUDA

Important, outside da front door. Hurry up.

(They exit. ALVIN helps himself to the chips. Munch, munch.)

JUNE FUKUDA

I thought I knew all my father's friends, but I guess not. Where did you two meet?

KAWABATA

Oh, ah, he didn't tell you?

JUNE FUKUDA

No.

KAWABATA

Well, long time ago. Your faddah like basketball?

JUNE FUKUDA

No, his favorite is baseball.

KAWABATA

Baseball, yeah, me too. Years ago wen I was one kid, I met your faddah.

JUNE FUKUDA

Oh, I know. He used to go to Honolulu Stadium back in the old days and see the local teams play.

KAWABATA

He did? I mean, yeah, just like me. I used to go see dem play every weekend. And your faddah, just last year I met him again.

JUNE FUKUDA

He remembered you?

KAWABATA

Yeah, he get good memory. He said he could neva forget me because of my nickname, Kawabata Hanabata.

(WALLY and GRACIE peer in through the picture window.)

JUNE FUKUDA

What? My father called you that?

KAWABATA

Oh no, all da kids used to call me dat. In fact, your faddah gave me da nickname Vinny so nobody would tease me. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

(He sighs in relief and grabs more chips. JUNE eyes him eating.)

JUNE FUKUDA

So, what do you do?

KAWABATA

(munching):

I own one fish market.

JUNE FUKUDA

That's nice.

KAWABATA

And I live wit' my folks. Or dey live wit' me, wateva.

JUNE FUKUDA

I know. I used to live with my parents a while back. Now I live in a condo.

KAWABATA

Oh yeah? Where?

JUNE FUKUDA

Kukui Plaza.

(Now he eats some M&M *s, pops them in one at a time.)*

Your mother must feed you well.

KAWABATA

Yeah, she's a good cook.

JUNE FUKUDA

What does she cook?

KAWABATA

Fried chicken, her pineapple spareribs is good, corned beef and cabbage...

JUNE FUKUDA

The corned beef has a lot of fat, right?

KAWABATA

Yeah, 's da best kine. Da fatty part taste da most ono.

JUNE FUKUDA

You don't eat fish?

KAWABATA

My folks like 'um, but I hate fish.

JUNE FUKUDA

Fish is good for your diet. You should eat fish at least once a week.

KAWABATA

But I see so many dead fish every day, I radda eat steaks and roast pork.

JUNE FUKUDA

Too much of that food is bad for you. You're just like my father.

(ALVIN reaches for more chips. Instinctively JUNE slaps his hand.)

Oh I'm sorry. Go eat. I didn't mean —

KAWABATA

Bad for me, yeah. I betta stop.

JUNE FUKUDA

No, no, eat.

(She puts the bowl of chips on his lap. WALLY and GRACIE are still watching when BUTCH and DEEDEE join them. WALLY is startled, and they all withdraw.)

KAWABATA

I betta save room for dinna. Wat do you do, your job?

JUNE FUKUDA

Schoolteacher. Maemae Elementary.

KAWABATA

Oh yeah? I went to elementary school once.

(BUTCH, DEEDEE, GRACIE, and WALLY enter. BUTCH wears a security guard uniform.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Hi, hi, hi.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

We not late, I hope.

JUNE FUKUDA

You came just in time.

WALLY FUKUDA

Butch, dis my friend, Vinny Kawabata. Vinny, my son Butch and his beautiful wife DeeDee.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Howzit.

(He gives ALVIN the local handshake, only ALVIN doesn't know it and fumbles around.)

Aeh, all dose chips for you?

KAWABATA

Oh no, no, here.

(JUNE takes the bowl and puts it on the table. BUTCH helps himself.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Time for eat or wat?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

We just came. Sit down and talk little while.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Daddy, Forty-niners versus Rams, plus ten Rams.

WALLY FUKUDA

Chee, gotta go wit' da Rams, eh, dey can beat da spread.

BUTCH FUKUDA

I dunno, Rams good for nuttin'. Wat for dinna?

WALLY FUKUDA

Oxtail stew.

BUTCH FUKUDA

(to ALVIN)

Aeh, da damn stew is onolicious. Time for chow down, eh?

GRACIE

Everything not ready yet.

WALLY FUKUDA

Relax, Butch, I like you get to know Vinny betta.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wat for? He get someting I like?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Butch!

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, just joking, Vinny.

WALLY FUKUDA

He wen' bring some opihi.

BUTCH FUKUDA

No kidding. Where you got 'um from?

KAWABATA

I cannot tell you. Secret.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Oh yeah? Vinny, if I like you tell me, I can get 'um oudda you. Security guards, you know, we get our ways. I get you in one small room wit' one light bulb ova your head and I question you till I squeeze 'um oudda you like toot'paste from one tube.

KAWABATA

Okay, okay, I tell you.

JUNE FUKUDA

No, don't. Butch is just practicing his intimidation technique.

BUTCH FUKUDA

C'mon, June, you always spoiling my fun. I had him on da ropes.

WALLY FUKUDA

I neva tell you, Butch is one security guard.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Good one too.

WALLY FUKUDA

Vinny own one fish market.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Yeah? You get one security system hooked up in your business?

KAWABATA

No, only one small place.

BUTCH FUKUDA

No matta, nowdays you gotta protect yourself. Times are hard, people desperate. Guard yourself at all times.

(BUTCH moves as if he's drawing a revolver and flashes his finger gun at ALVIN, who promptly raises his arms. GRACIE brings a beer for BUTCH.)

GRACIE

Butch, you t'irsty, eh?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, t'anks, Gracie.

(He takes good gulps of the beer.)

GRACIE

Vinny, you neva read about Butch? Couple a years ago, he arrested dese two robbas all by himself. Da story was in da *Advertisa* and *Star-Bulletin.*

DEEDEE FUKUDA

His picture too.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Was nuttin'. Dose two guys neva had a chance. I slam one guy in da head wit' my flashlight and kick da odda guy in balls. Down, man, dey wen' down. One, two. Knockout, blackout.

WALLY FUKUDA

Das wen DeeDee and Butch wen' meet. She was one secretary dere.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Yeah, I wen' spark her and I said, right dere, 's da girl for me. Right, baby?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Yeah, for me too.

BUTCH FUKUDA

I mean, I knew right away. You know? You eva had dat feeling?

KAWABATA

No.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Well, aeh, you get time yet. No give up hope. Going come for you someday.

KAWABATA

I hope so.

GRACIE

Well, I tink we can eat now.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Okay, good, I going whack 'um, man.

WALLY FUKUDA

Try wait. I like tell all of you someting first.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, Daddy, no can wait till afta we eat? Da kaukau going get cold and den wat?

WALLY FUKUDA

I know, but dis is important.

KAWABATA

Ah, I betta go den.

WALLY FUKUDA

No, stay, stay.

KAWABATA

I can wait in da bat'room.

WALLY FUKUDA

You betta not. Bumbai you wet your pants again.

(BUTCH eyes ALVIN suspiciously.)

KAWABATA

(standing)

Maybe betta if —

(BUTCH holds him down with one hand.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

No sweat, brah, easy, easy, cool down.

WALLY FUKUDA

Okay den. Now I was tinking real hard about dis. You see, I made sixty-five, so I old enough to figga out wat is good and wat is bad. But in dis case, I dunno da real answer yet. But anyway das why I like tell you wat on my mind.

(There is a pause as everyone waits for WALLY to continue. But he doesn't.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, what? What do you want to say?

WALLY FUKUDA

Huh? Well, not so easy to, you know, explain all dis. Because, you know, get mo' dan one side, get maybe two or t'ree sides and so I —

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy!

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat you tink if I move?

JUNE FUKUDA

Move? Move what?

WALLY FUKUDA

Move from dis house.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Maybe you like move, but where you can go? Every place still expensive on Oahu. And outside islands not cheap too.

JUNE FUKUDA

This Liliha area is good for you. You know all the neighbors. Everything is so convenient. Life is good here.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S true. But wat you tink about me moving to Vegas?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Las Vegas?

JUNE FUKUDA

You cannot live in Las Vegas.

WALLY FUKUDA

I neva said I going, but lodda Hawai`i people moving to Vegas. Right, Butch?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Oh yeah, I know some guys. Aeh, get about forty retired police officers living dere now.

WALLY FUKUDA

See? And couples, families moving dere too. Ask Gracie.

GRACIE

Wat? No ask me nuttin'.

WALLY FUKUDA

Tell dem about your hairdressa.

GRACIE

She not my hairdressa anymore.

WALLY FUKUDA

Because she wen' move to Vegas. And she doing good now as one real estate lady.

GRACIE

'S wat I hear.

WALLY FUKUDA

See? So das why I was tinking, maybe, wat if I move to Vegas, I wonda wat would happen.

JUNE FUKUDA

No, Daddy, absolutely no. Get that idea from you head right now.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, I guess you right. But I was tinking even Butch and DeeDee could go too.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Me and Dee?

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah. You can find one security guard job up dere real easy. Maybe in one a da casinos. And DeeDee, da place you work wen' lay you off, so you free to go. Hard to find jobs in Hawai`i anyway. Wat if you can be like Gracie's friend and learn real estate too. Hawai`i people like buy Vegas property for investment. Lodda dat going around.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

But I would have to go to real estate school or something.

WALLY FUKUDA

No problem for you, you get education. And you get plenny friends too. I bet deir families like invest in Vegas.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wat you tink, Vinny?

KAWABATA

I dunno, I just own one fish market.

BUTCH FUKUDA

You eva go to Vegas?

KAWABATA

Once a year I take da old folks. Dey like Vegas.

WALLY FUKUDA

Everybody like Vegas.

JUNE FUKUDA

Not me.

WALLY FUKUDA

June, you come up too.

JUNE FUKUDA

I hate Vegas. Daddy, you cannot go. What about Mama?

WALLY FUKUDA

Mama always liked going to Vegas.

JUNE FUKUDA

But not to live. She loved Hawai`i. She'd never have left Hawai`i for good.

WALLY FUKUDA

Butch, wat you tink? You ready to go?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Chee, I wonda. I guess I can get one good security guard job up dere. I get good record. How you feel, Dee?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

I don't wanna leave my parents behind.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, not going be li'dat. You get two bruddahs and one sista, so dat part no need worry.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Wat? You made up your mind already.

BUTCH FUKUDA

No, but gotta tink, eh. Maybe my faddah get one good idea. Gotta talk about it.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

We can talk wen we get home.

WALLY FUKUDA

Try listen. You know my good friend Harry visiting from Vegas. And he said, brand-new four-bedroom house in North Las Vegas — one hundred twenty tousand dollars. All da appliances, ready to move in. Only hundred twenty tousand dollars.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wat you tink, cheap, yeah?

KAWABATA

I dunno. Ask me da price of ulua.

JUNE FUKUDA

What about the crime in Vegas? I read that per capita they have more crime in Vegas than in any other city in the country. What do you think about that, Butch?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, dat means I can find one security job easier up dere.

JUNE FUKUDA

Vegas is not up there. Up there, like you're talking about heaven or something. Vegas is down there, Vegas is hell. Gambling, prostitution, crooks. Daddy, people lose everything in Vegas. They lose their home gambling there. You know the Murata man. He sold his gas station, his house, and moved to Vegas. Then he lost it all.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, da poor guy. I hear he dealing Twenty-One at El Cortez now. But he neva get control, 's why. You gotta have control.

JUNE FUKUDA

And you have control?

WALLY FUKUDA

Of course.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, you dunno 'cause you neva dere, but Daddy get control. He's good. You good, Daddy, I tell you dat right now.

JUNE FUKUDA

All I know is that it's a crazy idea.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, but if you really tink about it, not so —

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Butch, will you shut up?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wat? Aeh, I just talking, wassamatta wit' dat, no can talk?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Wat about wat I tink?

BUTCH FUKUDA

You can talk, you get mout', nobody stopping you.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Shut up, you. I going home.

(She starts for the door.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Yeah, just try. I get da key.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

No, stupid. I drove ova.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Oh yeah.

WALLY FUKUDA

DeeDee, wait.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

I gotta go. Dis dumb bugga get me so mad.

(She exits.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, Dee, no make ass li'dat! Wat I said? See wat I go t'rough, Daddy. No can talk wit' her. But, you know, about Vegas — if you like, I can call dese guys in Vegas and ask dem to look around for me.

JUNE FUKUDA

Butch, don't encourage him like that.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wat? I just trying to help. Daddy need information, right? I can get 'um for him, no problem. Wen he get all da facts, he can decide wat to do.

(Sound of a car starting up.)

Aeh, Dee, wait! Aeh, aeh!

(He rushes out. GRACIE watches, then closes the door.)

JUNE FUKUDA

You see the trouble now? Why even think about Vegas? I know. It was Harry. He's always been a bad influence on you.

WALLY FUKUDA

No, no, not Harry, no blame him.

JUNE FUKUDA

Yes, Harry. He always used to get you in trouble.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat kine trouble? Wen?

JUNE FUKUDA

Years ago, I remember when you and Harry went to the cockfights and the police raided the place.

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh dat. Dat wasn't Harry's fault. Blame Aki Kamiya for dat. He da one wen' take Harry and me to da cockfights. Gracie, you neva hear dis before but dat time I was so scared I almost kukae in my pants.

JUNE FUKUDA

Mama was really worried when you didn't come home.

WALLY FUKUDA

(to GRACIE and ALVIN)

Well, see, da t'ree of us wen' out in one truck wit' some odda guys, way out Wahiawa side deep in da canefields. So we was watching da chickens fight wen we hear cars come up and was da police. Ho, we haul ass oudda dere, man. Everybody wen' scatta all ova da place. I was running t'rough da sugar cane wit' Harry and Aki. Oh, heart attack, heart attack all da way. Finally we came out and found one road. Took us hellava long time come back to Honolulu. But we was lucky. One buta kaukau man wen' come —

GRACIE

One wat?

WALLY FUKUDA

One buta kaukau man, one a dose guys who go around picking up pig slop from people. He wen' give us a ride in da back a da truck wit' all da pig slop.

JUNE FUKUDA

You should've seen him. The buttons on his shirt were gone, dirt all over his face and clothes. And he was so smelly.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat you expect? Pig slop not perfume, you know. But dat time, Harry wen' actually save me. Wit'out his help, da police catch me sure.

JUNE FUKUDA

And if you go to Vegas, the police there will arrest you someday with Harry and his wild ideas. Daddy, you're happy in Hawai`i. Be sensible. You think you could have fun in Vegas. For a short time, yes, but then you'll get bored. You can't gamble all the time. And if you do, you'll lose everything like the Murata man. I don't care what you say about control. Gambling can become a disease.

WALLY FUKUDA

Hmmm, I get one headache. I going in my bedroom rest.

(WALLY exits. There is a long pause. ALVIN looks around, then his stomach rumbles loudly. GRACIE returns to the kitchen.)

KAWABATA

Aaaahhh, you get one nice family.

JUNE FUKUDA

Thank you.

KAWABATA

Yeah, good you folks talk to each odda. Me, I'm da only child. And my folks, dey not big talkas. Usually for dinna we just sit in front of da TV and eat. My folks, dey like da Japanee programs.

JUNE FUKUDA

That's nice.

(ALVIN's stomach rumbles even louder. He clears his throat and bends over, squeezing his stomach. Just as GRACIE returns, there is another deep rumble.)

GRACIE

Wow, wat was dat? Sound like tunda.

JUNE FUKUDA

Oh, we didn't serve dinner. Vinny must be hungry.

KAWABATA

No, I not hungry. For real. No worry about me.

GRACIE

In dis house, dey like one big bowl a rice and den dey pour da stew ova. I make one for you.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, how you feeling?

WALLY FUKUDA

(offstage):

Aaaaahhhh, go eat. No wait for me.

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, I might as well come back tomorrow and we can talk. I'm not hungry anyway. Gracie, I'm going. Nice to have met you, Vinny.

KAWABATA

Ah, if you wanna talk, I like to listen. I mean, I get pretty good ears. I listen to my parents talk all da time. In fact, I listen betta dan I talk. Maybe we can go someplace and I can just listen. I don't like Vegas too.

JUNE FUKUDA

You don't?

KAWABATA

No. I only go once a year to take my folks. I don't have any fun dere. If we go someplace to talk, I can tell you all da reasons why I hate Vegas.

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, we could go to... I guess Liliha Bakery.

KAWABATA

We can go in my car.

JUNE FUKUDA

No, we'll go in our own cars so you don't have to drive back.

KAWABATA

Okay.

GRACIE

You not going eat da stew rice?

KAWABATA

We gotta go.

JUNE FUKUDA

Sorry, Gracie.

GRACIE

Dis da first time I stay at one dinna, and everybody go home wit'out eating.

(WALLY peers out from upstage, then walks out. The front of his trousers is all wet.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Someting is wrong wit' da faucet.

GRACIE

You like eat?

WALLY FUKUDA

No.

GRACIE

'S wat I figga.

WALLY FUKUDA

You tink I was crazy bring up Vegas again?

GRACIE

I tought you already made up your mind dat Vegas was no good for you.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S da funny part. You know wen Kay was getting weaka from da cancer, I actually tought maybe Kay and me should go live in Vegas.

GRACIE

No kidding.

WALLY FUKUDA

I could see Kay getting stronga and stronga in Vegas because playing da slot machines gave her da energy she neva get at home. And I tought maybe I might see one miracle.

GRACIE

So wat happen?

WALLY FUKUDA

Nuttin'. I neva even ask Kay if she like go live dere. Was kinna crazy idea, I guess. But wat if I wen' ask her, and she said yes? I shoulda said someting to her.

GRACIE

So wat you going do now?

WALLY FUKUDA

I dunno. All I know is I like do da right ting. But wat is da right ting?

(WALLY ponders as lights fade to black.)

Act 2

Act 2, Scene 1

Act Two Scene 1

(Early evening. WALLY enters from upstage hallway in aloha shirt and trousers. Barefoot as usual. He enters the kitchen as the doorbell rings. He comes out with a small glass of orange juice and opens the door. HARRY enters and takes the glass away.)

HARRY

Aeh, too early?

WALLY FUKUDA

No, I like talk, das why.

HARRY

Sorry I was out wen you called last night.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat you said about Vegas. Maybe I should move dere.

HARRY

Aeh, 's tarrific. 'S wat I was hoping. Wally and Harry togedda again — in Vegas. We can beat dat town.

WALLY FUKUDA

But June hate da idea.

HARRY

So wat? 'S your life. You cannot let your daughta tell you wat to do. She not your muddah.

WALLY FUKUDA

But she get level head.

HARRY

You live in Vegas, come home visit once a year. June stay in Honolulu, visit you once a year. Perfect.

WALLY FUKUDA

But she already forty-one. She not married. I no like leave her here alone.

HARRY

Butch like go?

WALLY FUKUDA

I tink he like da idea.

HARRY

Sure. Butch love Vegas.

WALLY FUKUDA

But den his wife DeeDee got mad.

HARRY

Chee, 's why hard wit' wahines. Dey no listen like da old days. Dey too independent today. Before, we tell 'um we going do dis, we going do dat, dey say, "Okay, honey." Now, hah! 'S why Ellen and me wen' divorce.

WALLY FUKUDA

So I get one big problem.

HARRY

No, you okay. June get da problem.

WALLY FUKUDA

If she was married, I no worry. If I know somebody taking care a her...

HARRY

June is not your liddle girl anymore. You going let her run your life? Do wat best for you. Wassamatta wit' da Fukuda men around here? Butch no can handle his wife?

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, DeeDee t'irteen years younga dan Butch, but she da boss, I tink. He depend on her plenny.

HARRY

If I talk to DeeDee, I bet I can convince her dat Vegas is a good place to live.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S why I wen' invite everybody ova tonight. Besides, get plenny leftova stew.

HARRY

Good, leave it to me. Maybe I can make June see da light too.

WALLY FUKUDA

I dunno. She get hard head. I wonda where she get dat from? Kay was not li'dat. Kay neva complain about

anyting.

HARRY

June get her hard head from you.

WALLY FUKUDA

Me?

HARRY

Yeah, you. Hard head bugga. Rememba way back wen I told you, forget da bakery, quit da union. Wat good? I said go start your own bakery. But you said, no, I get good job, security, da union protect me. So you work for da bakery all your life and you retire, and da bakery no give a damn about you.

WALLY FUKUDA

Da bakery treated me okay.

HARRY

But you coulda been your own boss. You coulda been betta dan Leonard's Bakery. You coulda been bigga dan King's Bakery. But you was hard head.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, wit' da job, I bought dis house, I raise two kids. I was satisfied.

HARRY

No get me wrong. I happy for you. But, Wally, wat might have been, wat might have been.

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, too late now.

HARRY

Not too late, Wally, not too late. You only sixty-five. You get twenty mo' good years ahead. You and me can go into business togedda — in Vegas.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat kine business?

HARRY

One shave-ice store.

WALLY FUKUDA

You nuts.

HARRY

No, listen. Vegas get real hot, you know dat. All da haoles up dere, all dey know is sno-cone. No ono dat ting. Ice too big, too chunky. Blah! We make finely shaved ice lightly packed and pour on da syrup, Hawai`i style. Or add some azuki beans or ice cream in da bottom of the cup. Da haoles going eat 'um up. And we catch all da Hawai`i gamblers from da California Hotel too.

WALLY FUKUDA

Nah. Where da store going be?

HARRY

Gotta be someplace where get lodda foot traffic. Maybe on Fremont Avenue near da Four Queens, Golden Nugget, Horseshoe. And da California not dat far away.

WALLY FUKUDA

How can make money wit' shave ice?

HARRY

Aeh, you know da Sekiya store in Aiea? 'S one popular place. No tell me dey not raking in da bucks. Tink of it. All you giving is ice and syrup and charging one dolla. Or dolla fifty if you add azuki beans or ice cream. Lodda profit dere, I tell you.

WALLY FUKUDA

So I go from frying doughnuts to shaving ice?

HARRY

Aeh, 's wat you get quit school in da tenth grade. 'S da payment you get for being one juvenile delinquent.

WALLY FUKUDA

You was worse dan me. You was expelled from Central Intermediate.

HARRY

Oh no, oh no, you not going smear my name. No sir. I was not expelled. I was not a bad boy. I was a stupid boy. I wen' flunk out. Nyyyyaaahhh!

(GRACIE and ALVIN enter at front door.)

HARRY

Hi, Gracie.

GRACIE

You guys talking about Vegas?

HARRY

No, I was asking Wally if I get chance wit' you.

GRACIE

Sure. We can fool around, and wen my Teddy come back from Guam, he going chop you up in one million pieces.

HARRY

Oh, I know you like my body but no come too close.

WALLY FUKUDA

Harry, I like you meet Vinny, June's boyfriend.

KAWABATA

I'm not really her —

HARRY

Vinny. Vinny Testaverde!

KAWABATA

No, Kawabata.

HARRY

You get Italian blood?

KAWABATA

No, just plain Japanese.

HARRY

You know, I got a buddy in Vegas, big shot executive at Caesars, Vinny Serritelli. Sharp guy. Wally, any time you wanna see a show at Caesars, leave it to me.

WALLY FUKUDA

Vinny and June wen' out on one date already.

KAWABATA

Well, not one real date.

WALLY FUKUDA

Everyting wen' okay?

KAWABATA

Oh, we had a nice talk.

WALLY FUKUDA

Now forget I'm her faddah. But you like June?

KAWABATA

Oh, she's a real good girl. I neva meet one good girl like her before. So I asked her if I could take her out.

WALLY FUKUDA

And she said...?

KAWABATA

Okay.

WALLY FUKUDA

Vinny own one fish market.

KAWABATA

Oh, dis ogo and dis menpachi.

(He hands over two packages. GRACIE takes the packages from WALLY and goes into the kitchen.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Chee, t'anks. Menpachi hard to get.

KAWABATA

I get one secret source. No ask me who. Cannot leak out.

HARRY

I promise if you tell me da secret, I no tell nobody.

KAWABATA

Okay, but you gotta —

WALLY FUKUDA

No, no, you no need tell Harry.

HARRY

Aeh, Alvin, no mo' one decent fish market in Vegas. If you can swing 'um, you can make plenny money in Vegas. I can get people like Wayne Newton come ova give you business.

KAWABATA

You know Wayne Newton?

HARRY

My buddy. Weneva he do one show, I always go backstage see him. He tell me, "Aeh, Harry, nice to see ya, you're my good luck charm." Watta guy. He gives da best show in town.

GRACIE

Wally, you like eat dinna outside? Nice tonight.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, good idea.

GRACIE

Okay, I take da tings outside.

HARRY

Aeh, you wen' fix da backyard, eh?

WALLY FUKUDA

I put up one barbecue.

HARRY

Nice.

(GRACIE exits with dishes. HARRY follows her outside.)

KAWABATA

June was saying you used to go see da Asahi and Red Sox teams play at Honolulu Stadium.

WALLY FUKUDA

I used to go every weekend back in da forties and fifties.

KAWABATA

Me too. We lived McCully side and my muddah made musubi for me, and I put Delaware Punch in dis old Army canteen and I sat in da right-field bleachers.

WALLY FUKUDA

Is dat right? You know, dose teams was not pros but dey played good baseball. Just regular working guys but I bet some a dem coulda played Triple A ball.

(HARRY returns.)

Aeh, Vinny used to see da Red Sox and Asahis play.

HARRY

Honolulu Stadium, first-base grandstand seats, my fav'rite place. Cannot beat dose days, yeah.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat was your fav'rite team?

KAWABATA

Da Asahis. Victor Mori, Dick Kashiwaeda, Tets Omiya, Larry Kameshima...

WALLY FUKUDA

Wait, wait, no can beat da Red Sox wit' Majo Uyehara.

HARRY

'S was our team. Dose days we neva get major league baseball on TV, so da local playas were our heroes.

WALLY FUKUDA

First base Masa Gunda.

HARRY

Second base Tsune Watanabe.

WALLY FUKUDA

Shortstop Larry Yaji.

HARRY

Hooo, dat guy was smood. Slicka, man, slicka.

WALLY FUKUDA

T'ird base Shin Yogi.

KAWABATA

Yeah, Shin Yogi. I tought he was related to Yogi Berra.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, da ball hit deep to short, Yaji

(playing it out)

scoop 'um up, sidearm to Watanabe at second...

(HARRY makes the catch and hurls to ALVIN, who is surprised but catches the phantom ball clumsily.)

HARRY

And on to first to Gunda.

WALLY FUKUDA

Good catch, Gunda.

HARRY

Double play. Aeh, dose guys were betta dan Tinkers to Evers to Chance. Yaji to Watanabe to Gunda.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, aeh, outfield.

HARRY

Left field Kats Kojima.

WALLY FUKUDA

Centa field Toku Tanaka.

HARRY

Right field Riki Watanabe, Tsune's bruddah.

WALLY FUKUDA

No forget da pitcha and catcha.

HARRY

Of course not. Catching, da great Sol Kaulukukui.

WALLY FUKUDA

And pitching, da fantastic Jimmy Doole.

HARRY

Kaulukukui and Doole, two great guys.

WALLY FUKUDA

Dose two was da only non-Japanese on da Red Sox, I tink, but dey was da heart and soul of da team.

HARRY

Last but not least, da manager Peanuts Kunihisa.

WALLY FUKUDA

Dat man was sharp, no nonsense kinna guy. He coulda managed in da major leagues.

HARRY

But, you know, I tink da best Hawai`i playa I eva saw was Wally Yonamine. Da guy was oudda dis world. All-star in baseball and football ...

WALLY FUKUDA

Made da Japan baseball Hall of Fame. Wow, 's someting.

HARRY

'S was da good fun time. Now no mo' Honolulu Stadium. I love dat old place. Hawai`i really junk nowdays. 'S why I love Vegas. Hawai`i change too much. Mo' crime, mo' murders, mo' traffic, mo' homeless. Aeh, I went to A`ala Park look around. Was so sad wen I see some homeless people sleeping in da park, lying around like dey sick or someting. Pitiful.

(to ALVIN)

Wen I was young, A`ala Park was one lively place. Used to get softball games on weekends wit' special men teams, even wahine teams, and dey had deir own uniforms too. Lodda people would come watch dem play. Big crowds. Real festive atmosphere. Today A`ala Park look so small, so diff'rent. Get da sign A`ala Street, but no mo' street. All covered up wit' grass. A`ala Street used to have tenements and lodda stores making business. Today nuttin'. I wonda where all da people went. Now A`ala Park so sad, so quiet. No mo' life. You see, Wally, 's why you betta come to Vegas. Not our Hawai`i anymore.

WALLY FUKUDA

I guess da old days always look betta dan da present. Nostalgia, yeah.

HARRY

Nostalgia nuttin'. Reality. Da old days were betta. But no can go back. So we gotta find one nodda place to live.

WALLY FUKUDA

But Hawai`i still get da aloha spirit.

HARRY

So, we get lodda Hawai`i people living in Vegas, we get our own aloha spirit dere.

(DEEDEE enters at the front door.)

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Hi, everybody.

WALLY FUKUDA

Hi, DeeDee. Where Butch?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

I came in my own car. I wanted to talk to you first.

WALLY FUKUDA

Someting wrong?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

No, but, ah...

HARRY

Aeh, Vinny, we go outside wit' Gracie, give her bad time.

(They go out.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Wassamatta?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Butch serious about moving to Vegas wit' you.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S good, eh? Wat about you?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

I worry about Butch up dere.

WALLY FUKUDA

He can find one job easy.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Not dat. His gambling.

WALLY FUKUDA

He's a smart gambler. I made sure about dat.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

But he no mo' control sometimes. Last year at his high school reunion in Vegas, he lost almost t'ree tousand.

WALLY FUKUDA

Dat much? He neva told me.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

I know. I guess he was embarrassed. Rememba around dat time he had to borrow one tousand from you.

WALLY FUKUDA

He said his car transmission wen' broke.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

And I asked my faddah for one tousand to help pay da apartment rent. Wat gonna happen if Butch live in Vegas all time? Too tempting for him. He can be just like one kid sometimes.

WALLY FUKUDA

But he lose dat big only dat one time, right?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Dat's da most he lost at one time, but he hardly come home a winna.

WALLY FUKUDA

I always tought he did pretty good.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

He tell you wen he win, but wen he lose, he neva tell you da real amount.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, yeah, lodda gamblers do dat. I shoulda figga dat out. DeeDee, I like you and Butch come live wit' me in Vegas. Going be one big house so you folks can have lodda space. And Butch's gambling, I make sure he no go crazy. I keep my eye on him. And if you see anyting, you let me know right away.

(BUTCH rushes in.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, Daddy, wateva she said, no believe her. She dunno wat she talking about.

WALLY FUKUDA

She said you da handsomest guy she eva saw.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Well, I neva said she was blind.

(DEEDEE exits to backyard.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

DeeDee and me was talking last night. I ready to go wit' you to Vegas. But she kinna scared. She neva live no place but Hawai`i.

WALLY FUKUDA

Butch, if we go up, you can handle da gambling?

BUTCH FUKUDA

No problem. I mean, wat, sometimes you win, sometimes you lose. But you gotta have control, right? 'S wat you always say.

WALLY FUKUDA

I know, but you get control?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Yeah, just like you, Daddy. Control, man, control.

WALLY FUKUDA

I no like cause you trouble.

BUTCH FUKUDA

No trouble, Daddy. No trouble. We going be togedda in Vegas. Start one new life. Maybe Dee can get pregnant dere. We been trying long time to get one baby. Maybe Hawai`i no good for her body rhythms or someting. Maybe desert air betta for her.

WALLY FUKUDA

If I go, I like buy one t'reeor four-bedroom house, and I like you and DeeDee come live wit' me.

BUTCH FUKUDA

'S good, sure, gotta stick togedda.

WALLY FUKUDA

I like June come too, but...

BUTCH FUKUDA

You know June, eh, she get education so she tink she know all da answers. Let her stay in Honolulu. She probably going be one old maid but...

(shrugs)

(HARRY returns.)

HARRY

Aeh, Butch.

(He hands a can of beer to BUTCH. They do the local handshake smoothly.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wat you say, Harry.

HARRY

Going be good, going be good.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Ready, man, ready.

HARRY

I was telling DeeDee I can help her find one job. Secretary, eh? Easy, brah, easy. One a da hotels can hire her. Leave it to me.

BUTCH FUKUDA

T'anks. Dat going be one big help.

HARRY

Aeh, brah, aeh, 's wat friends are for. Excuse, eh, I gotta use da bat'room.

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh wait. Butch, I like you check da bat'room faucet. Funny kine.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wassamatta?

WALLY FUKUDA

Try come look.

HARRY

Aeh, aeh, let me use da toilet first, eh.

(All three head off upstage. JUNE enters at front door. She doesn't look happy. ALVIN enters from backyard.)

KAWABATA

June.

JUNE FUKUDA

Hello, Vinny.

KAWABATA

I brought da ogo and menpachi I promised you. I gave 'um to your faddah.

JUNE FUKUDA

Oh you didn't have to. Expensive those things.

KAWABATA

No, I was happy to bring 'um — for you.

JUNE FUKUDA

It was nice of you to listen to me the last time. Must've been boring for you.

KAWABATA

Oh no. Betta dan watching Japanee programs wit' my muddah and faddah. By da time I close up da market, go home, wash up, eat dinna, it's pretty late. I don't have time to go out much, so being wit' you was good, different.

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, I won't bend your ear tonight.

KAWABATA

You can bend my ears all you like. I get tough ears.

(HARRY returns.)

HARRY

Hello, June.

JUNE FUKUDA

Harry.

HARRY

Good to see you. Your father and I are having a great time recalling our youth. Even Vinny here remembers those times. Right, Vinny?

KAWABATA

Oh yeah. I was young, but I didn't forget.

(WALLY is back.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Gracie, where you put da monkey wrench?

GRACIE

(offstage):

Unda da kitchen sink.

(WALLY heads for the kitchen.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh, June, good, good.

(He exits.)

HARRY

How are things?

JUNE FUKUDA

Good. And you?

HARRY

Couldn't be better. Las Vegas is always jumping. Can't believe that city. About six thousand people move to Vegas every month. Fastest-growing city in the country.

JUNE FUKUDA

Do you work for the Chamber of Commerce there?

HARRY

No. But that's not a bad idea. They should pay me for all the good things I say about the city. Then I come back to Honolulu and see A`ala Park and all those homeless people, I think, what's going on? Where did all those homeless come from, where are they going?

JUNE FUKUDA

You could take them to Vegas with you.

HARRY

No, we don't want losers in Vegas, only winners.

JUNE FUKUDA

I bet there are more losers than winners there.

HARRY

It's a bet. And I win. 'Cause, you see, to be a winner, in Vegas, you don't have to come home with jackpot money. All you gotta do is have a good time with friends or family. It's sharing a common purpose: to hit the jackpot. Sometimes you win, sometimes you don't. But it's still fun and you can forget your troubles at least for the time being. Vegas is the place where adult children take their elderly parents to play because it's the Magic Kingdom. Old folks in wheelchairs with daughters pushing them along. It's a son bringing his elderly parents to the slot machines for the first time and showing them how to play. And feeling great when his parents really enjoy themselves. And when they hit the jackpot, the son feels like crying because he made his parents laugh and be happy, something he was never able to do at home. That son was me. I wish my parents were still alive 'cause I would take them to Vegas with me to live and I would take them to the California Hotel every day just so I could see them having fun.

KAWABATA

Maybe I should take my parents to Vegas more often.

WALLY FUKUDA

(emerging):

Oh, Vinny, try come. I like you show Butch wat wen' happen wen you wet your pants dat night.

(ALVIN exits with WALLY.)

HARRY

How's your father taking retirement?

JUNE FUKUDA

He was doing great until you put the idea in his head about moving to Vegas.

HARRY

I think it would be good for him. Few years ago when I hit fiftyfive, I sold my home and moved to Vegas, and I never regretted what I did. Even after I split everything with my ex-wife, it was still worth it. Your father could make a bigger financial gain than me.

JUNE FUKUDA

It's not the money. He's comfortable enough. He has family and friends here.

HARRY

I'll be there. I'll help him.

JUNE FUKUDA

That's the trouble. You're a bad influence, Harry. I don't want you to corrupt him.

HARRY

No, June, you got it wrong. I would never do anything to hurt Wally. I guess he never told you, but he sorta saved my life long time ago. I was a kid who had flunked out of school and I was bumming around A`ala Park wasting my life. Your father noticed me in the park and became like a big brother. He even gave me money so I could eat and encouraged me, all this after my own father kicked me out of the house. If it wasn't for your father, I don't know what would've happened to me. I got a lot to thank Wally for, and I'll always look out for him.

(WALLY and ALVIN return, followed later by BUTCH.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Now you can use da bat'room and no need worry about wetting your pants again. C'mon, everybody, we go eat. Harry, les go.

(WALLY, ALVIN, and HARRY exit to backyard.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Butch.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Wat?

JUNE FUKUDA

I like talk.

BUTCH FUKUDA

You not hungry? We go eat first.

JUNE FUKUDA

No, wait. Harry's trying hard to get Daddy to move to Vegas.

BUTCH FUKUDA

I know.

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, what do you think?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, I like da idea. I hope Dee and me can go too. Daddy tinking of getting one big house so we can live wit' him.

JUNE FUKUDA

Don't you care, leaving all your friends in Hawai`i?

BUTCH FUKUDA

You crazy? I going see my friends mo' often 'cause dey always visiting Vegas. Daddy's house going be one busy place wit' his friends stopping by and my friends coming. Hell, we going be having parties all da time. If you smart, you come too. Make Daddy happy. In fact, if you go too, no question Daddy going.

JUNE FUKUDA

I don't want to go.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, 's okay wit' me. But you can find some kinna teaching job in Vegas, and you no mo' husband or boyfriend here so you no mo' reason to stay.

(BUTCH goes out to backyard. JUNE sits dejectedly as GRACIE comes in.)

GRACIE

June, come eat.

JUNE FUKUDA

Now Butch wants to go to Vegas.

GRACIE

'S no eart'shaka. I would be surprised if you wanted to go.

JUNE FUKUDA

Doesn't Daddy see it's a stupid idea?

GRACIE

Well, if he go, not going be da same wit' out him.

JUNE FUKUDA

You're on my side, aren't you? You don't want my father to go.

GRACIE

Betta for me if he stay in Hawai`i. I would miss him. But, you know, he not da only one. Lodda people leaving Hawai`i. Dey feel like Hawai`i got nuttin' to offer anymore. Especially good jobs. It's pretty sad.

JUNE FUKUDA

But it's different with Daddy. He just retired and he has no worries about things like job or taking care of the family. I don't know what he's thinking. Is he worried about anything?

GRACIE

Well, he is worried about you.

JUNE FUKUDA

Me? He's so silly.

GRACIE

I know. He get in his fuzzy little head dat you need one husband.

JUNE FUKUDA

He's so old-fashioned. He can't understand that a woman doesn't have to be married to be happy. What does Daddy want me to do — marry some fool with no manners just so he can move to Vegas?

GRACIE

Yeah, it's funny about faddahs and daughtas. My faddah was like Wally. He cared about me more dan his own life. Maybe dat's why I feel so close to Wally. It's such a good feeling, yeah, wen your faddah love you dat much.

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, if he loves me that much, he won't go to Vegas.

GRACIE

But, you know, June, in a way Wally is right. Faddah and daughta is diff'rent than husband and wife. I loved my faddah wit' all my heart, but wen Teddy came into my life, everyting wen' change. I was no longa daddy's liddle girl looking up to him. Wit' me and Teddy, it was like equal partnas on da same level. I was a woman. And a damn good one too. And wen you get your husband in da sack, and you make love, and it's good, well, 's someting you cannot get from a faddah. It's like real fulfillment. Fulfillment? Aeh, how did I come up wit' dat word. Surprise me.

JUNE FUKUDA

I know, Gracie, but you were lucky to find Teddy. There are no Teddys in my life.

GRACIE

Aeh, no get me wrong. Teddy is no carnival prize. In fact, he was da runt of da litter. But he was my runt.

JUNE FUKUDA

Maybe I am selfish. But I don't want Daddy to leave. I have to take care of him. He needs me. He has to see that. It's wrong to move to Vegas. He can't go. I won't let him.

(Lights fade to black.)

Act 2, Scene 2

Scene 2

(Later that night. DEEDEE and BUTCH enter from back door.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Everyting going change wen we go to Vegas.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

How?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Well, for one ting, we going make our baby dere.

(He tries to grab her.)

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Aeh, no touch.

BUTCH FUKUDA

(singsong):

We going make one baby, we going make one baby.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

And if da baby don't come, den wat?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Gotta come 'cause important to me. One boy to keep up da Fukuda name. I going do good in Vegas. Maybe start out as one security guard, yeah, but I can do mo' dan dat. Living in Hawai`i was holding me back. You just wait. Aeh, and Harry going be one big help. He get connections. 'S wat we need. You know da right people, you move up.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

But wat if dere's no baby?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, wat you talking about? Da docta said you can have ten babies. We going make us one baby and we going have fun while we make da baby.

(He embraces and kisses her.)

We go in my old bedroom.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

No. Everybody going be looking for us.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Who cares?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Not tonight.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Why?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

'Cause you putting pressure on me. I don't wanna make love unda pressure.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Pressure about wat?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Da baby.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Okay, tonight no count. Going count only wen we get to Vegas. Tonight only for fun.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

You love me?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aaaahhh... yeah.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Why do you love me?

BUTCH FUKUDA

Dis one trick question?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

No. Just tell me why and be honest.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Okay, okay. I love you because you da only one I can make laugh. Nobody else like my liddle jokes. I love you because you always tink mo' about me dan about yourself. And I can brag to you about wat I did and you always listen and you always so happy for me. I love you because... I love you.

(DEEDEE kisses BUTCH. JUNE enters.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Butch, I want to talk with you.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Well, Dee and I gotta do someting.

JUNE FUKUDA

It's important. It's about Daddy.

BUTCH FUKUDA

I know wat you going say. But if Daddy wanna move to Vegas, 's his business. He's not a kid.

JUNE FUKUDA

Don't you see? It's not about moving to Vegas, it's about leaving Hawai`i — our home, our life, our culture.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, Hawai`i going downhill. No mo' opportunities here. Tourism hitting hard times. Cost of living is high. Not just retirees heading for Vegas. Lodda younga people going too. So if Daddy wanna live in Vegas, well, Dee and I willing to go wit' him.

JUNE FUKUDA

But what if Daddy gets sick or something, we gotta stick together.

BUTCH FUKUDA

If someting happen to Daddy, I can take care a him. I going be wit' him, so no worry. Trust me. See, I no blame you, you like stay in Honolulu. Schoolteacha, steady job. And you like Daddy stay in Hawai`i wit' you, but maybe Hawai`i not da best place for Daddy. Dee, I going lie down wait for you. No take too long.

(BUTCH exits to bedroom.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, I guess you can hardly wait to go to Sin City too.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Not really. But Butch wanna go so badly. And I don't wanna lose him. I'm willing to go. But he keeps bugging me about having a baby.

JUNE FUKUDA

Yeah, I hear him too, like a stuck record. It's an obsession with him.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Da thing is, he doesn't have enough tadpoles in his juice.

JUNE FUKUDA

Not enough tadpoles in his juice? What?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Yeah, you know, he's not a baby maker. 'S wat da doctor said. He was gonna tell Butch, but I said I would tell him. Dat would really hurt Butch. So he doesn't know.

JUNE FUKUDA

Even if he did know, he wouldn't believe it. I guess that's why he divorced Miriam. He thought she couldn't give him a baby. But it was his fault all along. Men are such fools.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Wat I going do about Butch?

JUNE FUKUDA

He's so macho, he's pathetic. You're too good for him.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

But I love him.

JUNE FUKUDA

Dee, Butch is a lucky guy.

(JUNE puts an arm around DEEDEE. ALVIN enters.)

KAWABATA

Boy, your faddah and Harry sure know lodda stories. Dey having a good time out dere.

JUNE FUKUDA

They've been friends a long time.

KAWABATA

I wish I had a friend like dat.

JUNE FUKUDA

You don't want a friend like Harry.

KAWABATA

No, I mean your faddah. He's a good guy.

JUNE FUKUDA

Yes, he's special.

(DEEDEE exits to bedroom.)

KAWABATA

Ah, he probably would make a nice faddah-in-law.

JUNE FUKUDA

DeeDee gets along with him.

KAWABATA

His oxtail stew was ono. You helped him make 'um?

JUNE FUKUDA

I don't cook. I never learned.

KAWABATA

How come?

JUNE FUKUDA

I didn't want to.

KAWABATA

Oh. How you eat?

JUNE FUKUDA

I buy things. Take-out. Frozen dinners. They're fine.

KAWABATA

I guess so.

JUNE FUKUDA

Most men I dated didn't like it that I couldn't cook. All they wanted was a maid to clean the house and cook their meals.

KAWABATA

I cook pretty good.

JUNE FUKUDA

Doesn't your mother cook at home?

KAWABATA

Oh yeah. But she's getting old, so I cook lodda times, mostly on weekends. I like cooking. I don't mind if my wife can't cook.

JUNE FUKUDA

Well, that shows you're not tied down to old-fashioned notions. You're not afraid of exhibiting your "female" traits.

KAWABATA

You mean — I'm a sissy?

JUNE FUKUDA

No, you're a man, a real man. Deep inside, I mean. You're not one of those superficial he-man phonies.

(DEEDEE returns.)

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Butch sleeping like a baby.

(She continues out to the backyard.)

JUNE FUKUDA

The only thing wrong with you is your name.

KAWABATA

Yeah, I know. Kawabata, wat a name.

JUNE FUKUDA

Kawabata is fine. It's Vinny. Doesn't suit you.

KAWABATA

Well, it's not my real name.

JUNE FUKUDA

Why do they call you Vinny?

KAWABATA

Your faddah gave me dat name. He didn't like my real name — Alvin.

JUNE FUKUDA

I like Alvin better.

KAWABATA

You do? Well, I can change 'um back real easy.

(The others return from the backyard.)

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Getting late. I betta go.

WALLY FUKUDA

Where Butch?

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Sleeping. No wake him up. Bye-bye, everybody.

WALLY FUKUDA

DeeDee, no worry. Everyting going be okay. I promise.

(She exits.)

GRACIE

Vinny, you like go too or you getting too much fun?

JUNE FUKUDA

His name isn't Vinny, so please everyone stop calling him that. His name is Alvin.

HARRY

Alvin? Alvin is one squirrel, right?

GRACIE

No, chipmunk.

JUNE FUKUDA

See now, don't tease him. You mustn't tease. It's not good manners. I think you should all apologize to Alvin.

HARRY

(aside to WALLY):

I forgot June is a teacher.

WALLY FUKUDA

Sorry, Alvin. My fault, yeah.

HARRY

No harm, eh, Alvin.

GRACIE

Alvin, I going now, you too?

KAWABATA

I guess so.

HARRY

Me too. Wally, I can use your phone? Gotta call one taxi.

KAWABATA

No need. I take you.

HARRY

You sure? I staying at da Halekulani.

KAWABATA

Yeah, we go.

HARRY

Okay, t'anks... Alvin.

(WALLY and JUNE go to the door to say goodbye.)

KAWABATA

Can I call you next week?

JUNE FUKUDA

Yes.

HARRY

Bye-bye, everybody. Good to see all of you. Next time Vegas.

GRACIE

Good night, sleep tight.

KAWABATA

T'anks for everyting, Wally.

WALLY FUKUDA

Okay, Alvin, no mention.

(They leave.)

If Butch no wake up, I guess I let him sleep ova. You like stay too? Your bedroom is clean.

JUNE FUKUDA

Hmmmm. I wish it was thirty years ago, and Mama was still young and healthy. I didn't think so at the time, but those were the best years. Carefree and simple. You and Mama were always there to watch over Butch and me. We had fun then too, didn't we?

(WALLY nods.)

I still remember the time you brought home lots and lots of crabs, and Mama boiled them all in two huge pots. We had so much crab meat, Mama froze a lot for crab salads and other stuff. But that night we spread newspapers on the living room floor and got out two nutcrackers and two hammers. And we sat around cracking open the crabs and eating with our fingers. Was ono. Remember?

WALLY FUKUDA

Of course. No can forget da kine stuff. Dat was one special night.

JUNE FUKUDA

Mama was in such a happy mood. She laughed so hard when you hit your finger with the hammer.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, dat really hurt.

JUNE FUKUDA

Oh Daddy, sometimes I wish I were a kid again and I could sit on your lap and tell you all about the things I

did in school.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yeah, you too big now. I wish Mama was here too.

JUNE FUKUDA

Yes. Then I could learn to cook from Mama. She wanted to teach me, but I was so stubborn. I never cared to cook.

WALLY FUKUDA

Not too late to learn.

JUNE FUKUDA

It wouldn't be the same without Mama. If she were here now, I would say, "Mama, show me how to make your ono sushi."

WALLY FUKUDA

You was one tomboy, wat you going do.

JUNE FUKUDA

I guess it's not just making sushi or anything else, but it's like mother and daughter sharing things.

(WALLY picks up a jigsaw piece, which he fits into the puzzle.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Liddle bit mo' and I can finish dis puzzle. Mama no help me, 's why I get hard time.

JUNE FUKUDA

Tell me about wen you and Mama were newlyweds,

WALLY FUKUDA

Newlyweds? I dunno. Wat I can say? Nuttin' special.

JUNE FUKUDA

Try.

WALLY FUKUDA

Well... aaahhhh, I dunno.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, before you two got married then.

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, I came back from Europe afta da army. And I was really broke ass. So I used to hang out A`ala Park side. Dere was dis small saimin stand. Was one shack. Da walls was all old termite. Da roof was corrugated metal. But from da outside, I could smell da barbecue meat cooking on da charcoal grill. I can still smell 'um. So I wen' in eat saimin. Hooo, da ono. Da best saimin I eva had. Maybe because your muddah wen' serve me. She was da waitress. So young and nice and pretty. I was going pay but I found one big puka in my pants pocket. I dunno wen I wen' lose my money. I neva can pay. I was so shame. So I told your muddah wat happen, and I tought she going be so mad, but she only laugh, laugh, laugh. She had da best laugh in da world. And so nice. Made me feel good. She paid da bill wit' her own money. I knew den she was da girl I going marry.

JUNE FUKUDA

Mama never told me.

WALLY FUKUDA

Kinna personal, eh. Was our own story between her and me. But now she no stay, so I guess okay to tell.

JUNE FUKUDA

Oh Daddy, I wish I'd been at that saimin stand with you and Mama.

WALLY FUKUDA

Kinna hard, eh. You was still in heaven waiting to be born.

JUNE FUKUDA

Life was so much simpler those days.

WALLY FUKUDA

Yep. Lodda memories. 'S da ting, yeah. I can take dose memories wit' me to Vegas.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, you cannot think about moving to Vegas. Not after what you just said.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat I said?

JUNE FUKUDA

Your whole life, Mama's life, the two of you in Hawai`i. You can't.

WALLY FUKUDA

But I told Harry I going.

JUNE FUKUDA

Tell him you changed your mind.

WALLY FUKUDA

I dunno.

JUNE FUKUDA

What about me? Don't you want to stay here with me? Don't I count in your life?

WALLY FUKUDA

Not dat. You dunno,'s why.

JUNE FUKUDA

Know what? Tell me.

WALLY FUKUDA

You da one I worry about da most. I no like leave you behind all alone.

JUNE FUKUDA

Then don't go.

WALLY FUKUDA

How about you come wit' Butch and me?

JUNE FUKUDA

No. That's ridiculous. What about Mama? How would she feel?

WALLY FUKUDA

If Mama was still alive, I no go Vegas.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, what about Mama's grave?

WALLY FUKUDA

I come back once a year visit. And you going stay.

JUNE FUKUDA

I'm staying 'cause Hawai`i is our home. We belong here, not on da Mainland. The Fukuda family has been in Hawai`i a hundred years.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wen I die, Butch can bring my ashes back, so we going be here foreva and eva.

JUNE FUKUDA

It's not that.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S all I care about. I going be buried in da family plot wit' Mama in Oahu Cemetery. Nice place, in da shade unda da big tree.

JUNE FUKUDA

If you go to the Mainland, you're going to forget Mama.

(WALLY pauses and ponders.)

WALLY FUKUDA

No, Mama is always wit' me. Every place I look. Mama doing da dishes. Mama knitting and watching TV. Mama in da backyard watering da plants. Mama trying to do da puzzle. Mama sick in bed, dying in bed. Every time I see her li'dat, I feel so sorry for her, I feel like crying. Why she hadda suffa, wen was all my fault?

JUNE FUKUDA

What you mean?

WALLY FUKUDA

Because of me, she wen' die. I wen' kill her.

JUNE FUKUDA

Don't be silly.

WALLY FUKUDA

'S wat she said.

JUNE FUKUDA

Mama wouldn't have said that.

WALLY FUKUDA

She did. Wen she was real sick, toward da end, she said, "You wen' kill me."

JUNE FUKUDA

She must've been delirious. She didn't mean what she said.

WALLY FUKUDA

I know dat. She was not one mean person. She neva wanted to hurt me. But, you dunno how hard. I cannot sleep in da bedroom. I sleep on da couch every night. No, I cannot forget Mama. She always wit' me, day and night. If I no go Vegas, I tink I going die.

JUNE FUKUDA

Stop talking like that.

WALLY FUKUDA

But you no undastand. Mama was right. I did kill her. Wen we went to see Dr˙ Wada, he said da smoke from my cigarettes gave her da lung cancer. Mama used to always say, "No smoke, Daddy, bad for you." And me, stupid, I said, "Die, die, ma-ke, ma-ke." So I wen' live and Mama got sick and die in my place. I was da smoka. Was not fair to Mama. I wish I wen' die instead of her.

JUNE FUKUDA

No, Daddy. Mama didn't blame you. She was always worrying about you, even when she was sick, worried about what would happen to you after she was gone. She told me that. I told her I would watch over you.

WALLY FUKUDA

Mama loved Vegas. She even had her fav'rite slot machine. I can see her laughing wen she hit da jackpot. She had so much fun. I gotta go dere. I not going forget her. How can? She going be wit' me in Vegas all da time, cranking da slot machines, hitting da jackpots, laughing, smiling. And wen I win, I can tell Mama, "See, you gave me good luck again, Mama, you always give me good luck."

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy...

(There is a quiet moment, then BUTCH shuffles in sleepily.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Everybody wen' home?

(He continues on to the kitchen, then returns.)

Daddy, I going sleep in my old bed tonight. You know, da room still get da same smell. Mama smell. Her smell. Like wen I was one kid. Huh. Make me feel good.

(He exits. Lights fade slowly to black.)

Act 2, Scene 3

Scene 3

(In the darkness, we hear a scraping sound across the stage. Lights go up and there's WALLY pushing a large box of clothes into the living room. Another smaller box is already onstage. WALLY, dressed in an aloha shirt and dark trousers, looks around pensively. He takes a painting off the wall and studies it, then blows on it to remove dust. GRACIE enters from the backyard and watches WALLY, who puts the painting on the dining table.)

GRACIE

Not finish packing yet?

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh. Nah, Butch going pack everyting for me.

GRACIE

You happy you flying to Vegas today?

WALLY FUKUDA

You know me. I neva going be happy, happy, happy.

GRACIE

I neva tink you going sell da house so quick.

WALLY FUKUDA

T'ree months is quick? I dunno how long supposed to take. Gotta find one nice new house in Vegas fast so Butch and DeeDee can come right away. No forget, eh, you gotta come visit me so I no get lonesome.

GRACIE

I going miss you, Wallace Fukuda.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aahhh, Vegas is only one short plane ride away.

GRACIE

But June is right. We cannot lose people like you to da Mainland. If everybody move to Vegas, who going be left in Hawai`i?

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, I gotta leave June behind.

GRACIE

She and Alvin been dating — wat you tink about dem?

WALLY FUKUDA

I dunno. Wit' my jigsaw puzzles, sometimes I lock da pieces togedda even t'ough no fit perfect. So I look at Alvin and I tink maybe he get chance. He no mo' pimples, right?

GRACIE

Right.

WALLY FUKUDA

He not bolohead.

GRACIE

Yeah, he get hair.

WALLY FUKUDA

And I check his teet'. Not crooked.

GRACIE

Straight like one white picket fence.

WALLY FUKUDA

And he not one big bamboola.

GRACIE

He's perfect.

WALLY FUKUDA

But June is real particular. So why she been dating him?

GRACIE

You cannot tell about wahine. I tink she sees someting in Alvin you cannot see.

WALLY FUKUDA

Beauty is in da eye of da beholda. Only ting June gotta get her eyes checked.

GRACIE

Wally, you bad.

WALLY FUKUDA

Nah, nah, nah, only kidding. Alvin is one good guy. And I give you all da credit. Afta all, you wen' bring dem togedda.

GRACIE

Aeh, no put dat ova my head, wat if no turn out good?

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, at least she wen' date one guy for t'ree months. 'S da longest I can rememba.

GRACIE

I report on dem for you.

WALLY FUKUDA

T'anks, eh. Well, wen I get to Vegas, I going hang out wit' Harry. Going be good.

GRACIE

You sure Harry not da Devil?

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat?

GRACIE

Sometimes da Devil can take human form, you know.

WALLY FUKUDA

Harry is my best friend from way back. I trust him.

GRACIE

Well, take care. Vegas is dangerous.

WALLY FUKUDA

Not for me. Rememba, control. Cool head main ting.

(BUTCH and DEEDEE enter at the front door.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Hi, hi, hi. Ready?

WALLY FUKUDA

I been ready since five dis morning.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Nervous?

WALLY FUKUDA

Nah. Sorry I leaving you folks all da packing.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Easy, easy. Neva forget nuttin'?

WALLY FUKUDA

Get my bags. Get my wallet. Travelers checks. Oh, I stay label all da stuff so you know wat to do.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Good, good. Can hardly wait till we come up. Gracie, come wit' us.

GRACIE

No, somebody gotta stay home watch da store.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

Harry sent me material about being a real estate agent. I tink I can do it.

WALLY FUKUDA

Sure you can. You know why? 'Cause you get nice personality, you get good head —

BUTCH FUKUDA

And people going believe you wen you sell dem worthless desert land.

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, no kid about da kine. DeeDee, you not going regret moving. You and Butch going do real good, I can feel it.

(JUNE and ALVIN enter at the front door.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Aeh, Alvin, how come? Store not open?

KAWABATA

I get one helper today. I wanted to come see you. And I brought smoked ahi you can take on da plane wit' you.

WALLY FUKUDA

You know, I going miss all da good stuff you always give me. I no mo' nuttin' for you.

KAWABATA

Well, get someting but...

WALLY FUKUDA

Tell me and I give 'um to you.

KAWABATA

I take June.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat?

KAWABATA

Oh, ah, I dunno wat I just said, so forget everyting.

WALLY FUKUDA

Alvin, Alvin, not up to me anyway. You gotta ask June.

JUNE FUKUDA

Daddy, don't embarrass him.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat I said? I neva do nuttin'.

JUNE FUKUDA

Sorry we didn't get here sooner. But we were with Alvin's parents earlier this morning.

WALLY FUKUDA

How da folks, Alvin?

KAWABATA

Good. Only my muddah wen' kinna dizzy in da head wen I told her da news.

WALLY FUKUDA

Wat news?

KAWABATA

Oh. You know, I tink I betta go to da bat'room.

JUNE FUKUDA

You might as well know now — I'm pregnant.

KAWABATA

Wat? Who made you pregnant?

(All eyes slowly turn to ALVIN.)

BUTCH FUKUDA

Nah, nah.

KAWABATA

I neva know wat I was doing.

(BUTCH pulls ALVIN aside.)

JUNE FUKUDA

Alvin and I will be getting married.

GRACIE

No wonda Mrs˙ Kawabata's head wen' spin.

BUTCH FUKUDA

If my sista was sixteen and you wen' knock her up, man, I would come rearrange your face free of charge. But since she forty-one, all I can say is: Wat da hell is your technique?

WALLY FUKUDA

You not doing dis because of me, for my sake?

JUNE FUKUDA

No. Alvin is a decent, honest, hard-working man. Any woman would be happy to marry him.

GRACIE

See, Wally, June get twenty-twenty vision.

DEEDEE FUKUDA

(with a hug):

I'm so happy for you.

GRACIE

(another hug):

Wat a wonderful surprise. It's so nice.

JUNE FUKUDA

I found out I was pregnant yesterday. We're going to get married in front of a judge. We don't want a fuss at our age.

KAWABATA

And we going honeymoon in Arizona and Utah.

JUNE FUKUDA

Then we'll stop over in Vegas to see you.

WALLY FUKUDA

Chee, dis is like one going-away present for me. Alvin, you wen' plan dis from way back or wat?

KAWABATA

No, no, I not li'dat.

JUNE FUKUDA

Will you show me Mama's favorite slot machine?

WALLY FUKUDA

My pleasure.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Aeh, Daddy, I no mo' good news to tell you about Dee and me. But just wait till we get to Vegas.

(He promptly elbows DEEDEE; she comes right back with a punch to his stomach.)

WALLY FUKUDA

Oh, June, dose boxes get Mama's clothes. You can give 'um away. I hope some people can use 'um. Okay, dat's it, I guess.

GRACIE

Wait, I like take pictures of everybody.

WALLY FUKUDA

Okay. Where?

GRACIE

Da couch. Wally in da middle. Two girls at his left and right. And da two guys behind.

(They follow her instructions.)

Dat's nice. I like da picture for remembrance. Last day togedda in dis house. I develop one for everybody. Okay, everybody, no move.

(She snaps the picture.)

KAWABATA

Wait, lemme take one picture wit' Gracie and all of you.

WALLY FUKUDA

Good idea. Ah, June, come sit on my lap. Gracie, sit next to me.

(JUNE doesn't move at first.)

June, hurry up, bumbai I miss my plane.

(He gives her a knowing look; she sits on his lap and hugs him. GRACIE takes her place.)

KAWABATA

Now everybody say, "Mahimahi."

EVERYBODY

Mahimahi!

KAWABATA

Dat's it.

WALLY FUKUDA

Well, might as well go.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Dis two bags, 's all?

WALLY FUKUDA

Yep.

BUTCH FUKUDA

Okay, I brought my van. We can all go togedda.

JUNE FUKUDA

I love you, Daddy.

(She kisses him on the cheek, then exits.)

GRACIE

Bye-bye.

WALLY FUKUDA

You no like go to da airport?

GRACIE

No. Bumbai I cry like one baby.

WALLY FUKUDA

Okay den. Oh wait, I almost forget.

(He rushes into the kitchen and returns with a big bakery box.)

GRACIE

Wat dis?

WALLY FUKUDA

Try open.

GRACIE

Guava Chiffon Surprise!

WALLY FUKUDA

I made 'um special dis morning. Just for you.

(She tries to hug him but can't because of the box. She nearly trips in putting the box on the coffee table. Returning, she embraces WALLY.)

Well, betta go.

GRACIE

Wait, wait, you take my frog for good luck.

(She puts the frog necklace around his neck. He looks around the house one last time.)

WALLY FUKUDA

I hope da new owners take good care of dis house. Da best house I eva lived in.

(He smiles at GRACIE and exits. GRACIE watches for a moment, then sits down on the couch holding the bakery box. Then she remembers something — the cassette player. She turns it on. The song "Time After Time" plays. GRACIE sits on the couch holding the Guava Chiffon Surprise as the song plays on. Lights slowly fade to black.)

THE END